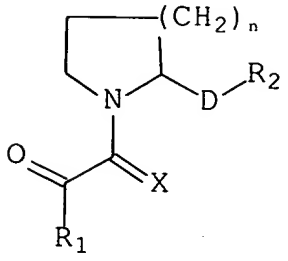


I

where

n is [1-]3;

X is either O or S;

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_9 straight or branched chain alkyl, C_2-C_9 straight or branched chain alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocycle, or heterocycle;

D is a bond, or a C_1-C_{10} straight or branched chain alkyl, C_2-C_{10} alkenyl or C_2-C_{10} alkynyl;

R_2 is a carboxylic acid or a carboxylic acid isostere; and

wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocycle, heterocycle, or carboxylic acid isostere is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^3 and Z, where R^3 and Z are independently hydrogen, hydroxy, halo, haloalkyl, thiocarbonyl, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkylaryloxy, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, cyano, nitro, imino, alkylamino, aminoalkyl, sulfhydryl, thioalkyl, alkylthio, sulfonyl, C_1-C_6 straight or branched chain alkyl, C_2-C_6 straight or branched chain alkenyl or alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, carbocycle, heterocycle, or CO_2R^7 where R^7 is hydrogen or C_1-C_9 straight or branched chain alkyl

or C_2-C_9 straight or branched chain alkenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or solvate thereof[;

provided that:

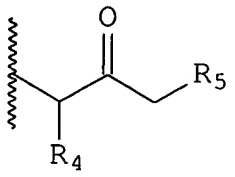
when n=1, and D is a bond, and R_2 is COOH,

then R_1 is not C_1-C_9 straight or branched chain alkyl, C_2-C_9 straight or branched chain alkenyl, C_5-C_7 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_7 cycloalkenyl, phenylamine, 2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl, hydroxy, ethoxy, benzyl, or Ar_1, where Ar_1 is 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thiazolyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 1-pyridyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, or phenyl, and wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, or Ar_1 are optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxyl, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_1-C_9 straight or branched alkyl, C_2-C_9 straight or branched alkenyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_2-C_4 alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, COOH, and amino;

further provided that:

when n=1, and D is a bond, and R_2 is the carboxylic acid isostere -CONZ(R^3), and Z is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, and R^3 is phenyl, or C_2-C_6 straight or branched chain alkyl or alkenyl, wherein said alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted in one or more positions with Ar_2 as defined below, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl connected by methyl or a C_2-C_6 straight or branched chain alkyl or alkenyl chain, C_1-C_4 alkyl ester, or Ar_3 where Ar_3 is selected from the group

consisting of 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thiazolyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, or phenyl, having one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_1-C_6 straight or branched alkyl, C_2-C_6 straight or branched alkenyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_2-C_4 alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, and amino; wherein said alkyl ester is optionally substituted with phenyl; or R^3 is the fragment:



where R_4 is selected from the group consisting of straight or branched chain C_1-C_8 alkyl optionally substituted with C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, benzyl, or Ar_2 as defined below, and where R_2 is COOZ or $CONR^6$, where R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 straight or branched alkyl, and C_2-C_6 straight or branched alkenyl, and where R_5 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, benzyl, C_1-C_6 straight or branched alkyl, and C_2-C_6 straight or branched alkenyl, where said alkyl or alkenyl is optionally substituted with phenyl;

then R_1 is not C_1-C_9 straight or branched chain alkyl, C_2-C_9 straight or branched chain alkenyl, substituted thiophene, or C_1-C_4 alkoxy, wherein said alkyl or alkenyl is optionally substituted in one or

more positions with C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_7 cycloalkenyl, or Ar_2, where Ar_2 is defined below, where said alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl groups may be optionally substituted with C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkenyl, or hydroxy, and where Ar_2 is 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, or phenyl, having one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_1-C_6 straight or branched alkyl, C_2-C_6 straight or branched alkenyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, C_2-C_4 alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, and amino;

further provided that:

when n=1, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is $-CONH_2$,

then R_1 is not methyl, ethyl, iso-propyl, iso-butyl, iso-pentyl, 4-methylpentyl, indolyl, phenyl, or hydroxyphenyl;

further provided that:

when n=1, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is cyano, then R_1 is not methyl;

further provided that:

when n=2, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is $CONZ(R^3)$, and R_1 is ethoxy, then R^3 or Z is not halo-substituted phenyl;

further provided that:

when n=2, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is $CONZ(R^3)$ and R_1 is substituted thiophene or tetrahydropyranoxy, or methoxy, then R^3 or

Z is not C_1-C_4 alkyl ester substituted ethyl;

further provided that:

when n=2, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is CONZ(R^3) and R_1 is ethoxy, then R^3 or Z is not 4-chlorophenyl;

further provided that:

when n=2, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is CONZ(R^3) and R_1 is cyclohexyl, then R^3 or Z is not ethyl or propyl substituted with phenyl;

further provided that:

when D is CH_2, then R_2 is not -OMe, -NHMe, or substituted -NHcyclohexyl;

further provided that:

when D is CH_2, and R_2 is -OH,

then R_1 is not phenyl or pyrrolidinemethanol;

further provided that:

when n=2, and X is O, and D is a bond, and R_2 is COOH,

then R_1 is not methyl, tert-butyl, 1,1-dimethyl-2-methyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl, methoxy, ethoxy, phenyl, tetrahydropyranoxy substituted C_4-C_6 alkyl, 1-methyl-1-methoxyamide, 1-methylcyclohexyl, 3-iodophenyl, 3-methyl ester-cyclopentyl, 1,1-dimethyl-6-phenyl-hex-3,5-dioxy, or trimethoxyphenyl].

5. (Amended) The compounds, [(2S)-1-(1,2-dioxo-3,3-dimethylpentyl)-2-hydroxymethylpyrrolidine; (2S)-1-(1,2-dioxo-3,3-

dimethylpentyl)-2-pyrrolidinetetrazole; (2S)-1-(1,2-dioxo-3,3-dimethylpentyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarbonitrile; and (2S)-1-(1,2-dioxo-3,3-dimethylpentyl)-2-aminocarbonyl piperidine; and compounds 1-25, 27, 28, 31-33, and 35-136] 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, and 103-105 of Tables I[, II,] and III.

A2 and

8. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising:

A3

a) an effective amount of [an N-heterocyclic carboxylic acid or carboxylic acid isostere] the compound of claim 1; and

b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 10, page 127, line 27, after "The pharmaceutical composition of claim" and before ", wherein", please replace "9" with --8--.

Claim 11, page 128, line 6, after "The pharmaceutical composition of claim" and before ", wherein", please replace "9" with --8--.

Claim 12, page 129, line 4, after "The pharmaceutical composition of claim" and before ", wherein", please replace "9" with --8--.

13. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim [9] 8, wherein the [N-heterocyclic carboxylic acid or carboxylic acid isostere] compound is selected from the group consisting of compounds [1-139] 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, and 103-105.

A4

16. (Amended) A method of treating a neurological disorder in

A5